

APPENDIX A.

*Remarks and Evidence relative to the influence of Rail Roads on Landed Estate, Agriculture, &c.**

From the Edinburgh Quarterly Review.

The opposition which railway companies experience, in obtaining the necessary legislation and sanction, proceeds, in the majority of cases, in this country, from the landholders, through whose lands the projected lines are to pass. Nevertheless, it is demonstrable that there exists no class of persons whose interests are more likely to be promoted by such improvements than those of the local proprietors.

Mr. Hardman Earle, a Liverpool merchant, was one of the most determined opponents of the Liverpool and Manchester rail road. His family had at the cost of above £12,000, built a house, and laid out pleasure grounds, through which the line of the railway passes; and their opposition was founded partly on the apprehended injury and inconvenience arising from this circumstance. Mr. Earle therefore, was very properly summoned as a witness before this committee, and the following is a part of his testimony.

"Have you experienced any inconvenience since the railway was constructed?" No inconvenience whatever has been experienced.

"Are the grounds infested by the people in consequence of the passage of the locomotive engine?" No.

*The evidence here quoted, was produced before the committee of the British House of Commons, on the London and Birmingham rail road.